

**CLAIMS:**

1. A method for facilitating the ease of handling and exchange of digital images, the method comprising:

obtaining a set of multiple digital images;

facilitating selection of images from the set;

collecting the selected images into a self-contained album, wherein the album comprises the selected images and computer executable instructions for viewing such images.

2. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising transmitting the album over a communications network.

3. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

attaching the album to an email message;

transmitting the email message over a communications network.

4. A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising converting the selected images into a common format.

5. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the computer executable instructions of the album are capable of facilitating viewing of images having only one format.

6. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the computer executable instructions of the album are capable of facilitating viewing of images having multiple formats.

5 7. A method for generating a self-contained album of digital images, the method comprising:

inserting images into an album;

inserting computer executable instructions for viewing such images into the album.

10 8. A method as recited in claim 7 further comprising transmitting the album over a communications network.

9. A method as recited in claim 7 further comprising:

15 attaching the album to an email message;

transmitting the email message over a communications network.

20 10. A method as recited in claim 7, further comprising converting the images into a common format.

11. A method as recited in claim 7, wherein the computer executable instructions of the album are capable of facilitating viewing of images having only one format.

12. A method as recited in claim 7, wherein the computer executable instructions of the album are capable of facilitating viewing of images having multiple formats.

5 13. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs a method for facilitating the ease of handling and exchange of digital images, the method comprising:

collecting images into a self-contained album;

10 inserting computer executable instructions for viewing such images.

14. A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 13, the method further comprising transmitting the album over a communications network.

15 15. A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 13, the method further comprising:

attaching the album to an email message;

transmitting the email message over a communications network.

20 16. A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 13, the method further comprising converting the images into a common format.